

BROTHERHOOD TRUTH SHEET

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SPIRITUAL AND HEALING MESSAGES OF LOVE

We gladly prepare and publish this weekly message of Truth for your Spiritual Edification. We do this without charge to you, all we ask, to insure its continued growth, is a "Love Offering" - to cover cost of handling.



BROTHERHOOD OF THE WHITE TEMPLE, INC.

THE MIGRATION OF by SYMBOLS

COUNT GOBLET D'ALVIELLA

WITH 161 ILLUSTRATIONS

In 1925, when Count Eugene Goblet d'Alviella died in Brussels at the age of 79, he had been recognized for thirty years for what Sir George Birdwood calls him in the introduction to this book: "The greatest living exponent" of symbols. His successor at Brussels University, R. Kreglinger, wrote about him:

"His name will live in the history of the science of religions of which he is one of the founders. Endowed with a vast culture, thoroughly versed in philosophical research, as well as in the methods of history, he perceived the curious complexity of the phenomena, the mutual influences of the different civilizations that exchange their beliefs and their symbols, giving each of them an original interpretation. His classical work 'The Migration of Symbols' became thus one of the foundations of religious archeology."

It is a remarkable fact that 63 years after this book was first published it is still eagerly sought-after. More than one book has assertedly replaced it, only to sink into oblivion.

It is obvious enough that a great deal of new material, previously undis-
(Continued on inside back cover)

covered art objects, new historical details, new information about the inter-relation of past cultures, have come to be known in the ensuing years. Nevertheless, no one has ever surpassed Count Goblet d'Alviella in explaining what a symbol is, how it has served a culture, how it has changed, developed or decayed, how in one instance it may well have appeared independently in several places, and how far more often it was carried from place to place from an original beginning. All this d'Alviella describes with rich examples and the greatest good sense, so that seldom have any of his hypotheses and interpretations been vitiated later by the simple gathering of facts.

He was the first professor of the history of religions at the Brussels Free University. His scientific standpoint is better understood if one adds that he was also the Grand Master of Belgian Freemasonry and one must recall that in so completely a Catholic country freemasonry is indelibly associated with freethinking. In 1891, at the age of 45, he won the signal honor of being designated the Hibbert Lecturer, and it was characteristic that his lectures were on the origin and growth of the idea of God.

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